

SEPTAGE LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN OUTLINE

Land management plans are a collection of detailed procedures relating to storing, mixing, conveying, and land applying septage pursuant to ch. NR 113, Wis. Adm. Code. The land management plan typically serves as a standard operating procedure (SOP) for the permittee's employees to reference and implement. The land management plan is also a framework that describes the facility's procedures so that department staff are able to ensure the permittee meets Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit and code requirements (ch. NR 113, Wis. Adm. Code) when land applying.

The land management plan includes information for: influent volume tracking, storage location(s), type of septage conveyance (or transportation) and land application vehicles/equipment, contingency plans for adverse or inclement weather, spill response procedures, daily record keeping, annual reporting requirements, and any other pertinent information relating to the day to day operations of the facility. Once approved by the department, land application practices must conform with the approved land management plan. Should the facility wish to operate differently than specified in the approved land management plan, the permittee may submit a modified written plan for department review and approval prior to implementing proposed modifications.

A suggested outline for a land management plan is provided below. This outline is intended solely as an example, and does not contain any mandatory requirements, except where requirements are referenced in statute or administrative rule.

A. Septage Influent Tracking

1. Detail influent tracking procedures for each type of septage (septic tank, holding tank, domestic grease interceptor, and portable restroom).
2. Provide a template of the daily influent log used to track each load of septage hauled to the septage storage facility. The template tracks the following information: name and address or location of system serviced, date and time of servicing, type of system (sampling point number) and description of all septage types pumped, gallons collected, name and address or location of septage storage facility, date and time of septage pumped to septage storage facility, and certification statement that the above information is true, accurate, and completed provided by the operator-in-charge of the licensed septage business that placed the domestic septage in the septage storage facility.

B. Septage Storage

1. List all DNR approved storage structures. Provide the DNR designated sample point number (Outfall 001), storage structure name, legal description of unit, construction description (type and material), structure capacity, septage type(s) stored in structure, and approximate volume stored annually.
2. Identify the location of each storage structure on an aerial photograph.

3. Provide a flow diagram detailing septage discharge into, mixing, and removal from each storage unit.
4. Briefly outline the procedures for regularly inspecting and maintaining each storage unit.
5. Describe the typical storage length of a batch of septage.
6. Describe the septage mixing procedures prior to emptying storage facility to ensure a consistent septage discharge.
7. Detail the removal and disposal of grit, sediment, and trash from the storage unit.

C. Septage Transportation

1. Describe the method of pumping septage from the storage unit to the hauling vehicle.
2. Identify all contractor or sub-contractors hired for removing septage.
3. Detail the unloading process for each vehicle at the disposal location.
4. Describe contingency plans for periods of adverse or inclement weather.

D. Spill Response Plan

1. Provide a spill response plan for clean-up of both minor (<50 gallon) and major (>50 gallon) spills at the storage facility as well as along the transportation route to fields and when land applying septage.
2. The spill response plan includes the DNR 24-hour spill hotline phone number (1-800-943-0003), and other emergency contacts as appropriate.

E. Septage Site Loading and Land Application Information

1. Detail procedures for obtaining and regularly updating a list of approved fields.
2. Describe all land applying methods (examples include, but are not limited to: splash plate, incorporation, and injection).
3. Describe the identification procedure for setback areas for each field (examples include, but are not limited to: flagging, cones, rangefinder, and GPS unit).
4. Provide a template of the daily land application (discharge) log. Generally, a land application log contains the following information: field DNR number, septage type, acres applied per site, volume of septage applied to site, hydraulic application rate, application methods, and description/documentation and certification that vector attraction reduction and pathogen control requirements have been satisfied.
5. Detail land application practices to ensure uniform application of septage across each field.
6. Provide hydraulic application rate (gallons/acre) calculations for each type of land applying equipment used.
7. Provide the annual agronomic rate (gal/acre/year) calculation for the expected crop yield per acre.

8. Detail additional nitrogen source tracking procedures for each field to ensure annual loading limits are not exceeded.
9. Describe the proposed department notification procedure(s) for anticipated removal of septage from the septage storage unit.
10. Describe procedures for litter control and minimizing odors.

F. Additional Disposal Options

1. List all potential disposal options (examples include, but are not limited to: wastewater treatment facilities and other WPDES permitted locations).
2. Provide a template of the daily disposal log. Generally, a disposal log contains the following information: outfall number, date and time septage was removed from septage storage unit, volume, disposal location, disposal date and time, and description/documentation and certification that vector attraction reduction and pathogen control requirements have been satisfied.

G. High Use Fields (if applicable)

1. Outline soil sampling procedures (UW Extension Bulletin A2100) and testing frequency.
2. Provide example calculations to verify that the volume of septage applied to a field does not exceed the amount which is necessary to supply the nitrogen needs of the crop grown.

H. Reporting

1. Identify the name and contact information for the person responsible for maintaining the daily influent, land application, and disposal records. Identify the location where daily records are kept.
2. List all required annual reports (Form 3400-52 and Form 3400-55), the general due date for each report, and the name and contact information for the person who is responsible for submitting those reports to the department.